



State of California  
The Natural Resources Agency  
California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE)

## NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

<b>PROJECT TITLE</b>	LaPorte Road II Hazardous Fuels Reduction Project		
<b>PROJECT LOCATION</b>	T24N, R10E, S20, 21, 27, 28, MDBM	<b>COUNTY</b>	Plumas
<b>LEAD AGENCY</b>	California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE)		
<b>CONTACT</b>	Ivan Houser		
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### PROJECT DESCRIPTION

This project will reduce hazardous fuels on 172 acres of private land within the residential community of LaPorte Road near Quincy, California. Hazardous fuels will be reduced utilizing a combination of techniques including hand thin and pile burn, broadcast chipping, and/or mechanical mastication. Target post treatment spacing of mature trees is 15 to 20 feet. Residual trees will be pruned up a minimum of 8 feet to remove the fuel ladder. Equipment employed in these methodologies may include any combination of the following: mechanical masticator, tracked chipper, bob cat skid steer, small chipper, and chainsaws. Dead and down woody material, brush, and small trees <10" Diameter Breast Height (DBH) will be targeted for removal. Hand thin/pile burn techniques may be utilized within the standard width of Class I – III Watercourse and Lake Protection Zones (WLPZ) within the treatment areas provided the residual stand in all watercourses meets the specifications of the California Forest Practice Rules to protect water temperature, filter strip properties, upslope stability, and fish and wildlife values. All practices employed during implementation of the proposed project will comply with the 2012 California Forest Practice Rules.

### EXEMPTION STATUS

- ☒ Categorical Exemption Type/Section: Class 4 §15304 Minor Alterations to Land
- ☐ Statutory Exemption (state code section):
- ☐ Ministerial (§21080(b)(1); 15268)
- ☐ Declared Emergency (§21080(b)(3); 15269(a))
- ☐ Emergency Project (§21080(b)(4); 15269(b)(c))

### REASONS PROJECT IS EXEMPT

This project fits under portions of the CEQA guidelines, Categorical Exemptions: Class 4 (Minor Alterations to Land), for minor alteration of vegetation including fuel management activities to reduce volume of flammable vegetation, provided the activities do not result in the taking of endangered, rare, or threatened plant/animal species or cause significant erosion and sedimentation of waters. Healthy, mature over-story trees will be retained. Smaller diameter (10" dbh or less), suppressed, diseased, or insect infested trees will be targeted for removal. In addition, by treating ground and ladder fuels, the project will reduce the potential impact from catastrophic wildfire and result in protection of the state's natural resources.

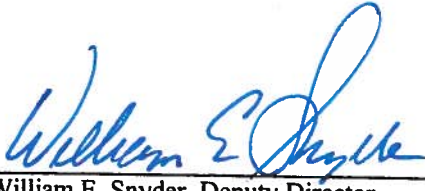
Field review by CAL FIRE staff confirmed that no exceptions apply which would preclude the use of a Notice of Exemption for this project. The Department has concluded that no significant environmental impact would occur to aesthetics, agriculture and forestland/timberland, air quality, biological resources, cultural resources, geology and soils, greenhouse gas emissions, hazards and hazardous materials, hydrology and water quality, land use planning, mineral resources, noise, population and housing, public services, recreation, transportation/traffic, or to utilities and service systems. Documentation of the environmental review completed by the Department is kept on file at Cal Fire's Lassen-Modoc-Plumas Unit in Susanville.

### DATE RECEIVED FOR FILING

RECEIVED

DEC 10 2012

STATE CLEARING HOUSE

  
William E. Snyder, Deputy Director Date 12/6/12  
California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection